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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-42 are pending in the Application.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 13, 22, 25 and 26 have been amended.

New claims 27-42 have been added in order to further define what the Applicants consider to be the invention.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments to the claims and newly submitted claims add no new matter to the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 6-11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 3 and any intervening claims; and that claims 15-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 13 and any intervening claims. In view of the discussion below, which reflects Applicants' position that amended independent claims 3 and 13, and all the claims dependent therefrom are patentable, including dependent claims 6-11 and 15-20, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6-11 and 15-20 are allowable in their present dependent form.

Objections to the Drawings

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The Examiner has objected to drawing 1. Specifically, the Examiner noted that drawing 1 as submitted on April 22, 2004 has not included the labeling "prior art"; and that a replacement sheet including amended drawing 1, as submitted with the amendment dated October 4, 2004 was not labeled "replacement sheet".

Attached, as Appendix A, is a replacement sheet labeled "replacement sheet", and including drawing 1 labeled "prior art", and drawing 2.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 22 and 23 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farwell et al. (European Patent Publication 0594354) in view of Yamauchi et al. (Japanese Patent Publication JP411308153).

Amended independent claim 1 recites, in paraphrase, transferring, to at least one neighboring base station, timing information identifying a timing of the yielded hop; and based on said timing information, during the hop which was yielded by the Base Station connected with the mobile unit, communicating with the mobile unit from said at least one neighboring Base Station. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references, including Farwell et al., and Yamauchi et al., alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Dent reference discussed below in connection with claim 2; and/or the Roundtree reference discussed below in connection with claims 3-5, 13, 14 and 24, teaches or fairly suggests at least transferring to the neighboring base station timing information identifying a timing of the yielded hop; and based on the timing information communicating with the mobile unit from the neighboring Base Station.

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Amended independent claim 22 recites, in paraphrase, a first base station periodically yielding a time interval; transferring, to a second base station, timing information identifying a timing of the yielded time interval; and based on the timing information, the second base station communicating with the mobile unit during the time interval. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references, including Farwell et al., and Yamauchi et al., alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Dent reference discussed below in connection with claim 2; and/or the Roundtree reference discussed below in connection with claims 3-5, 13, 14 and 24, teaches or fairly suggests at least transferring to the second base station timing information identifying a timing of the yielded time interval ; and based on the timing information communicating with the mobile unit from the second Base Station.

Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claims 1 and 22 are patentable, and thus allowable, over the prior art references on record. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of amended claims 1 and 22 under 35 USC §103(a) be withdrawn.

Claim 23 depends directly from independent claim 1 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 23 is patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

The Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farwell et al. in view of Yamauchi et al., and further in view of Dent (GB Patent Publication 2337669A).

Claim 2 depends directly from independent claim 1 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

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The Examiner rejected claims 3-5, 13, 14, and 24-26 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farwell et al. in view of Roundtree (US Patent Number 6640098).

Amended independent claim 3 recites transferring to the at least one Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area timing information identifying a time interval; and from the at least one Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area, sending at least one PING command to the mobile unit during said time interval. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references, including Farwell et al., and Roundtree, alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Dent and/or Yamauchi et al. references discussed above, teaches or fairly suggests at least transferring the timing information to the Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area; and sending the at least one PING command during the time interval.

Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 3 is patentable, and thus allowable, over the prior art references on record. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of amended claim 3 under 35 USC §103(a) be withdrawn.

Each one of claims 4, 5 and 25 depends directly from independent claim 3 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 4, 5 and 25 are patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 6-11 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. Each one of claims 6-11 is dependent, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 3 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-11 are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

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Amended independent claim 13 recites from the Base Station connected with the mobile unit, sending at least one PING command to the mobile unit during a time interval; transferring to the Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area timing information identifying said time interval; and based on said timing information, at the Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area, receiving an ECHO reply from the mobile unit in response to said PING command. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references, including Farwell et al., and Roundtree, alone or in combination with any other cited references, including the Dent and/or Yamauchi et al. references discussed above, teaches or fairly suggests at least sending the PING command to the mobile unit during a time interval; transferring the timing information to the Base Station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area; and receiving the ECHO reply based on the timing information.

Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 13 is patentable, and thus allowable, over the prior art references on record. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of amended claim 13 under 35 USC §103(a) be withdrawn.

Each one of claims 14, 24 and 26 depends directly from independent claim 13 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14, 24 and 26 are patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 15-20 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. Each one of claims 15-20 is dependent, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 13 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15-20 are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above.

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The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farwell et al. in view of Roundtree, and further in view of Lu et al. (US Patent Number 6,212,395).

Claim 12 depends directly from independent claim 3 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 is patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

Remarks to New claims

New claims 27-42 have been added to further define subject matter included in the scope of the present invention.

No new matter has been added.

New independent claim 27 relates to a system including a first base station able to communicate with a mobile unit; and a second base station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area able to receive timing information identifying a timing of a time interval yielded by said first base station, to send at least one PING command to said mobile unit during said time interval, and to receive at least one ECHO reply from the mobile unit.

Applicants respectfully assert that none of the previously cited prior art, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention, and therefore do not anticipate claim 27, and do not render claim 27 obvious.

Accordingly, independent claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

Each one of claims 28-34 depends, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 27 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 28-34 are patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

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New independent claim 35 relates to a system including a first base station connected to a mobile unit, and able to send at least one PING command to the mobile unit during a time interval; and a second base station waiting for the mobile unit to enter its coverage area able to receive timing information identifying said time interval, and based on said timing information, to receive from the mobile unit an ECHO reply in response to said PING command.

Applicants respectfully assert that none of the previously cited prior art, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention, and therefore do not anticipate claim 35, and do not render claim 35 obvious.

Accordingly, independent claim 35 is in condition for allowance.

Each one of claims 35-42 depends, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 35 and incorporates all the elements of this claim. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 35-42 are patentable, and thus allowable, at least for the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

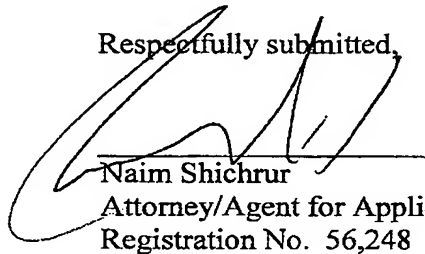
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, and for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-42 are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

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Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naim Shichrur', is written over a horizontal line.

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Dated: July 20, 2005

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APPENDIX A